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FOOD INFORMATION CALENDAR

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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VICTORY GARDENERS START PLANNING NOW ... A series of meetings have been scheduled for discussing needs and plans for 1944 Victory Gardens. Representatives of garden clubs, local and state garden committees, Civilian Defense committees, American Women's Voluntary Services, seed and horticulture trade, press, magazines and radio services, as well as Extension Service and FSA, are being notified. The following schedule has been approved:

Atlanta, Ga.	Jan. 24-25	Portland, Ore.	Feb. 10-12
New Orleans, La.	Jan. 26-27	Minneapolis, Minn.	Feb. 15-16
Memphis, Tenn.	Jan. 28-29	Chicago, Ill.	Feb. 17-18
Omaha, Nebr.	Jan. 21-Feb. 1	Cleveland, Ohio	Feb. 21-22
Denver, Colo.	Feb. 2-4		

Following the Cleveland meeting, similar conferences will be held in New York and Boston, the dates to be announced later.

Discussion will center around the following suggested topics:

- Reports on 1943 Victory Gardens
- Food requirements and need for enlarged program
- Organization of state and local Victory Garden committees
- Seed, fertilizer, and supply situation
- How to produce more in 1944 Victory Gardens
- Need for more community gardens
- Problems of the urban gardener
- Problems of preservation and storage of Victory Garden products

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SORRY WE DON'T CARRY PHOTOGRAPHS ..... or we would reproduce pictures of Food Fights for Freedom window displays which have come in from FDA in Des Moines, Iowa. One window featured waste fat salvage, presenting a display of various sizes of shells with comparisons on the fat needed to make the necessary glycerine for the ammunition shown. .... Another used posters for background and features the actual food in a typical GI ration for one-day. Data were furnished by FDA. .... How about passing on similar pictures or descriptions of particularly interesting activities in your State?

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IF YOU PASSED THESE BY ..... at first glance, you may want to give them a second reading. USDA press release 1428-44 tells about plans for expansion of in-plant feeding facilities for the nation's industrial workers in 1944. ... OPA release X-24837 gives questions and answers on token rationing.. ... OPA release X-24654 explains plans for increased allotments of food for school lunchrooms and cafeterias. .... Answers to the recent question of releasing pork from the rationing system are given in OPA release X-24812. You may need that for local queries.

THREE LINES OF APPROACH ..... have been developed in the price education program -- through the trade, consumers, and farmers. The aim of the trade program will be to show the retailer the merchandising and goodwill possibilities in his official price list. He will be urged to feature the list prominently in his store display, so labeling himself as one who is abiding by the laws and providing a price-checking service for his customers. For consumers and consumer groups who can be counted on to check prices actively, official price lists will be made available to the Price Panel of the local War Price and Rationing Board. On the back of one of the posters, "Information on Price Panels," what price to look for in the store, how to report violations, and similar information will be printed. An overall price control booklet and a price control poster also will be issued for consumer use. For farmers, OPA District Price Officers are preparing dollars-and-cents price lists on products on which price ceilings are applied for sales at the farm. These lists are being given to County Agents, who will make the price information available to farmers.

"KNOW TOP LEGAL PRICES" is the theme to be stressed from now through March.

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ARE YOU FOLLOWING THROUGH ON TEMPORARY LOCAL ABUNDANCES?

Here is the list this week of really abundant foods over most of the country:

POTATOES
LETTUCE
WHEAT AND RYE FLOUR
FRESH SHELL EGGS
BREAKFAST CEREALS
PEANUT BUTTER
CITRUS FRUITS, particularly grapefruit and smaller oranges
SOYA FLOUR, GRITS, FLAKES (products not marketed in every city)
MACARONI, NOODLES, SHAGHETTI, VERMICELLI
FROZEN VEGETABLES (all ration-free except peas, corn, limas)

Not quite so plentiful, or limited to certain regions are:

CABBAGE - from Texas and Florida, plentiful in East and Midwest
SPINACH - from Texas, plentiful in Southwest
CELERY - ample supplies in most markets
WINTER SQUASH - from California, plentiful on Pacific Coast
KALE - from Virginia, well distributed in Eastern States
SWEET POTATOES - abundant in South and Southwest
FRESH PORK - fairly plentiful except on East and West Coasts and in some areas of the South
PORK, variety cuts - plentiful in most larger markets

LOOK FOR THESE RELEASES ..... on food allocations. Expected soon are statements by FDA on allocations of fats and oils, butter, coffee and cocoa, and vegetable seeds for Victory Gardens and farms. ... To follow .. fairly complete figures on food allocations to various claimants -- military, lend-lease, liberated territories, and civilian -- in overall percentages.

FACT SHEETS AND TIMETABLES..... on food information programs comprising the Food Fights for Freedom campaign are being prepared on -- goals, farm machinery, etc., Crop Corps, Victory Gardens, nutrition, food conservation, home food preservation, rationing and price control.

DO YOU KNOW ***** (A release by John T. Burke, AFofL liaison officer to OPA.)

That, although you might not guess it to hear some people talk, the OPA did not bomb Pearl Harbor.

That, contrary to popular belief, the OPA has nothing to do with the way bread is cut or pants are cuffed.

That the OPA is not even responsible for the issuance of the shiny pennies which many people confuse with dimes.

That the WPB and the WFA, not the OPA, determine what goods are rationed and when they are rationed.

That the OPA calculates food ration point values on the basis of civilian food allocation made by the WFA.

That the agricultural prices on which all food prices depend can be set only by agreement between the OPA and the WFA -- and then only if agricultural price parity provisions of the Price Acts are met.

That the OPA has an average of less than 1 investigator for each county in the United States.

That these investigators have not only to check on violations of gas, tire, food and other rationing regulations, but also on ceiling prices at manufacturing, wholesale and retail levels.

That of the 222,000 people working with the OPA, 167,000 serve without pay.

That the annual cost per person of supporting the OPA, is $1.27.

That the OPA has already saved the average family of this country $700 each.

That the OPA has saved the government sixty-four billion dollars by holding down the cost of war materials.

*** NATIONAL FARM AND HOME HOUR ***

MONDAY - Jan. 17 - W. D. Termohlen, Assistant Chief, Dairy and Poultry Branch, FDA, Ruth Van Deman and Wallace Kadderly, "American Food in England."

TUESDAY - Jan. 18 - Walter Lloyd, Office of Materials and Facilities, WFA, and Wallace Kadderly, "Tires for Farmers."

WEDNESDAY - Jan. 19 - * - Marvin Jones, War Food Administrator.

THURSDAY - Jan. 20 - Dr. W. W. Skinner, Chief, Bureau of Agricultural and Industrial Chemistry, "Chemical Science in 1943."

- Secretary Wickard with a special message on the fight against infantile paralysis. (Auspices of National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis.)

FRIDAY - Jan. 21 - Post-War Agriculture #7, Carl Taylor, BAE, "Security for Farm People."

* - First in a series of talks to be made by Judge Jones, each dealing with a specific commodity. This first will tell about corn.

CONSUMER TIME

WINTER VEGETABLES is the subject of next week's Consumer Time -- with advice to the housewife on how to select quality foods and get her money's worth in buying fresh winter vegetables. Aaron Stambaugh, marketing specialist with the Fruit and Vegetable Branch of FDA, who has had more than 25 years experience covering produce markets, will give the helpful points. Backing up this program, Consumer Time listeners who request it, will be sent free a 62-page booklet, "A Fruit and Vegetable Buying Guide for Consumers." A fast-moving dramatic skit about winter vegetables in Alaska during the gold-rush days of '98 will also be presented. That's Saturday, Jan. 23, 12:15 EWT; NBC.